



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#17
Response
Attached
Jimmiller
3/28/02

In re the Application of:

TAKAYUKI YABU, et al. ✓

Group Art Unit: 2881

Serial No.: 09/648,632 ✓

Examiner: Cornelius H. JACKSON

Filed: August 28, 2000 ✓

For: **DISCHARGE ELECTRODES CONNECTING STRAUTURE FOR
LASER APPARTUS AND LASER APPARATUS THEREWITH**

RECEIVED
MAR 25 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
March 21, 2002

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 21, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated December 21, 2001.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 USC. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Itakura (JP 1-268078A). The applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection.